



YORK COUNTY BAR ASSOCIATION

137 East Market Street, York, PA 17401
Telephone: (717) 854-8755
Fax: (717) 843-8766 email: info@yorkbar.com

Contacts: Charlie Rausch, Esq.
Chair, YCBA Judicial Liaison
Committee
Phone: 717-845-3674

Suzanne S. Smith
President, York County Bar Association
Phone: 717-843-9023

Victoria Connor, CEO
York County Bar Association
Phone: 717-854-8755, ext. 206

NEWS

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

YORK COUNTY BAR ASSOCIATION RELEASES JUDICIAL RETENTION SURVEY AND POLL RESULTS

[York, PA – October 14, 2013] The York County Bar Association (YCBA) has tallied the results of the Judicial Retention Survey and Polls of its members with respect to the retention of York County Judges Michael E. Bortner and Thomas H. Kelley, VI on the ballot for the November 5, 2013 election.

“The YCBA conducted these surveys as a public service in order to provide important information to those who are served by the judicial system. It is often difficult for litigants and general public to evaluate the performance of those in judicial office,” said Charlie Rausch, Esq., YCBA Judicial Liaison Committee Chair. “The Bar Association takes no position on the retention of any individual judge.”

The surveys sought the opinion of each member of the Bar as to the candidate with whom the member may have had experience regarding impartiality, legal ability, diligence and judicial temperament. The members of the Bar were asked if they had Extensive, Moderate, Limited or No Contact and to rate the performance of the judge with respect to each attribute based on the following point scale: 5 - excellent; 4 - good; 3 - acceptable; 2 - poor; and 1 - very poor (total 20 points)

The surveys were followed by a poll asking members whether he/she supported retention, opposed retention or had had no opinion, as to the candidate. Two polls were conducted. (315) YCBA members responded to poll 1 (Kelley) and (283) responded to poll 2 (Bortner) “We were very pleased with the high level of response from our membership, since many of our members do not practice in front of the county trial court,” stated Rausch.

While the individual survey responses are completely confidential, the overall results of the polls are shown on the attached sheet. The results of each attribute represent the total points awarded, divided by the total number of responses. The overall score is an average score based upon the points awarded for all attributes.

- YCBA add one -



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YCBA 2013 JUDICIAL RETENTION SURVEY RESULTS SUMMARY

Judge	Extent of Contact = E, M or L	Impartiality	Legal Ability	Diligence	Judicial Temperament	Overall
The Hon. Michael E. Bortner	E=26.07% (73) M=22.14% (62) L=33.21% (93) N/A=18.57% (52) (280)	4.38 (267)	4.17 (268)	4.13 (266)	4.43 (267)	17.11 (86%)
The Hon. Thomas H. Kelley, VI	E=19.47% (59) M=28.38% (86) L=35.31% (107) N/A=16.83% (51) (303)	3.40 (296)	3.80 (297)	3.53 (296)	3.11 (296)	13.84 (68%)

2013 JUDICIAL RETENTION POLL

Judge	Support Retention	Oppose Retention	No Opinion
The Hon. Michael E. Bortner (283)	75.62% (214)	4.95% (14)	19.43% (55)
The Hon. Thomas H. Kelley, VI (315)	48.89% (154)	22.54% (71)	28.57 (90)

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